

## Amendments to the Claims

**1. (Currently Amended)** A ~~preventive or curative~~ pharmaceutical composition for skin ulcer, comprising a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

**2-3. (Cancelled)**

**4. (Currently Amended)** The composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the human recombinant HGF in which five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain is any one of the following;

(a) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 of Sequence Listing; or

(b) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence in which one to several amino acid(s) is/are deleted, substituted or added in SEQ ID NO: 1 of Sequence Listing, and having the HGF activity.

**5. (Currently Amended)** A ~~preventive or curative~~ pharmaceutical composition for skin ulcer, comprising a gene encoding a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

**6-7. (Cancelled)**

**8. (Currently Amended)** The composition according to ~~any one of claims 5 to 7~~ claim 5, wherein the gene encoding a human recombinant HGF in which five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain is a gene comprising any one of the following DNAs;

(a) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence listing;

(b) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence in which one to several nucleotide(s) is/are deleted, substituted or added in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing, and encoding a protein having the HGF activity;

(c) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes with a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing under the stringent condition, and encodes a protein having the HGF activity; or

(d) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% or more homology with a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing, and encoding a protein having the HGF activity.

**9. (Original)** A method for treating a skin ulcer, comprising administering to a mammal a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain.

**10. (Original)** A method for promoting neovascularization, comprising administering to a mammal a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain.

**11. (Original)** A method for promoting granulation formation, comprising administering to a mammal a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain.

**12. (Original)** The method according to any one of claims 9 to 11, wherein the human recombinant HGF in which five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain is any one of the following;

(a) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 of Sequence Listing; or

(b) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence in which one to several amino acid(s) is/are deleted, substituted or added in SEQ ID NO: 1 of Sequence Listing, and having the HGF activity.

**13. (Original)** A method for treating a skin ulcer, comprising administering to a mammal a gene encoding a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain.

**14. (Original)** A method for promoting neovascularization, comprising administering to a mammal a gene encoding a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain.

**15. (Original)** A method for promoting granulation formation, comprising administering to a mammal a gene encoding a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain.

**16. (Original)** The method according to any one of claims 13 to 15, wherein the gene encoding a human recombinant HGF in which five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain is a gene comprising the following DNAs;

(a) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing;

(b) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence in which one to several nucleotide(s) is/are deleted, substituted or added in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing, and encoding a protein having the HGF activity;

(c) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes with a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing under the stringent condition, and encodes a protein having the HGF activity; or

(d) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% or more homology with a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing, and encodes a protein having the HGF activity.

**17. (Currently Amended)** Use of A method for making a pharmaceutical composition, comprising mixing a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid

residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain, ~~for preparing a drug to treat a skin ulcer~~  
with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

**18-19. (Cancelled)**

**20. (Currently Amended)** The ~~use~~ method according to ~~any one of claims 17 to 19~~ claim 17, wherein the human recombinant HGF in which five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain is any one of the following:

(a) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 of Sequence Listing; or

(b) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence in which one to several amino acid(s) is/are deleted, substituted or added in SEQ ID NO: 1 of Sequence Listing, and having the HGF activity.

**21. (Currently Amended)** ~~Use of A method of making a pharmaceutical composition, which comprises mixing a gene encoding a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain, for preparing a drug to treat a skin ulcer~~ with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

**22-23. (Cancelled)**

**24. (Currently Amended)** The ~~use~~ method according to ~~any one of claims 21 to 23~~ claim 21, wherein the gene encoding a human recombinant HGF in which five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain is a gene comprising any one of the following DNAs;

(a) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing;

(b) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence in which one to several nucleotide(s) is/are deleted, substituted or added in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing, and encoding a protein having the HGF activity;

(c) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes with a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing under the stringent condition, and encodes a protein having the HGF activity; or

(d) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% or more homology with a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing, and encodes a protein having the HGF activity.

**25. (Currently Amended)** A sealing-type wound covering material, comprising a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain in combination with a sealing-type wound covering material.

**26. (Original)** A kit for treating a skin ulcer, comprising a composition containing a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain, and a sealing-type wound covering material which can absorb an exudate from an affected part of skin ulcer.

**27. (Original)** A method for treating a skin ulcer, comprising covering wound surface with a sealing-type wound covering material which can absorb an exudate from the affected part of skin ulcer, maintaining the affected part of skin ulcer under the wet environment, and placing a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain, in a sealing-type wound covering material, or between a sealing-type wound covering material and wound surface.